UPDATE: WILLIAM B. WALSH FELLOW, DR. LAXMIKANT PALO

How His Work Is Progressing

Dr. Laxmikant Palo initiated country operations to streamline medical and volunteer supplies to a proposal on health and hygiene. He initiated a USAID-Nepal with an institutional partner for program implementation. He initiated a needs assessment for a long-term global health program in collaboration with the earthquake-affected population, and multi-country programs and multi-donor unique proposals. He has initiated a process for high-quality proposals on non-communicable diseases, maternal newborn child health and nutrition — with many breakthrough ideas for unique proposals. He has initiated a process for multi-country programs and multi-donor partnerships, serving a range of public health themes. He continues to scale up current programs while maintaining their quality.

PROJECT HOPE IN ARMENIA:

How Dr. George Kevorkian Helped Build Local Capacity, In His Own Words

In 1989-90, I had the privilege of serving as the initial full-time program director for Project HOPE’s Pediatric Orthopedic Rehabilitation Program in Armenia,” says Dr. George Kevorkian, a physiatrist, associate professor of medicine and Project HOPE volunteer.

“The program was developed in response to the December 1988 earthquake that killed 25,000 people and injured many more.

“Education is a rewarding experience for HOPE professionals.

“In October, I was asked to return to Armenia to give lectures and assist in setting up adult stroke rehabilitation programs.

“My visit was truly gratifying. Many of our former students are now teachers and in positions of leadership in major hospitals in Armenia. Our initial orthotic/prosthetic student is now the owner of Armenia’s main orthotic clinic with 31 employees.

“The pediatric orthopedic program has grown under the leadership of our initial Armenian physician.”

continued on next page >
How Dr. George Keveryian Helped Build Local Capacity in Armenia (continued)

counterpart, Dr. Karen Kolayan. The department provides services for 70 percent of children with congenital and acquired orthopedic problems in Armenia and Karabakh. Under his leadership, a pediatric orthopedic residency program has been established, and services include surgery for 350 children annually — with 10 percent coming from Georgia, Russia and the Ukraine. The pediatric outpatient clinic provides services to 5,000 children each year.

Barry Savits, M.D., on His Work with HOPE in Equador

“To assure sustainability of the lessons taught during the SS HOPE year in Ecuador (1963), Dr. Walsh realized a land-based program was needed to solidify the medical ethics and innovative practice patterns. Over two years (1985-67), it was implemented in Cuenca in the southern Ecuadorian Andes to rehabilitate a failing health care system.

“HOPE physicians Dr. Robert Class (cardiology), Dr. Chuck McGinn (ER-GYN) and I introduced modern patient care and open outpatient clinics, and we established sound teaching techniques and one-to-one training of local physicians and students.

“The results included the first open-heart procedure, pediatric and chest surgery; operating-room techniques and sterility; initiating grand rounds and pathology conferences.

“Through Project HOPE, local surgeons came to the U.S. for surgery training. All the senior medical students working with HOPE became directors and chairmen of their subspecialties and one of them, Dr. Edgar Rodas, became Minister of Health in Ecuador. A new hospital, medical school complex and curriculum have been instituted, and a second medical school has been opened. Project HOPE’s work, and medical model were eminently successful.”

Paul Altrocchi, M.D., on His Work in Sri Lanka in 1968

“Although I made occasional visits to the capital, Colombo, as part of the second rotation of SS HOPE physicians, intern Marty Cohen and I spent the two-month rotation in the beautiful hill town of Kandy. Our teaching was much appreciated by our excellent Sri Lankan colleagues.

“Within a year of graduating from Colby College in Maine, my daughter was in Sri Lanka — then called Ceylon — with the Peace Corps and I introduced modern patient care and open outpatient clinics, and we established sound teaching techniques and one-to-one training of local physicians and students.

“In January, 1989, Dr. Warren Gruppi led a Project HOPE team that selected me and 36 other children needing prostheses to travel, each with a parent or guardian, to receive care in the United States. I underwent surgeries in Syracuse, NY, for 14 months, where a local Armenian nurse became my local guardian. After 7 months, I left the Cruise Memorial Hospital.

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“Ara Tadevossian Shares His Experiences as a Patient in Armenia

“I was 14 years old and at home in Gyumri with my mother in our five-story apartment building at the time of the December 7, 1988 earthquake. After two days of searching and digging, my father and older brother found us. I was airlifted to the capital, Yerevan, where both my legs were amputated.

“In January, 1989, Dr. Warren Gruppi led a Project HOPE team that selected me and 36 other children needing prostheses to travel, each with a parent or guardian, to receive care in the United States. I underwent surgeries in Syracuse, NY, for 14 months, where a local Armenian nurse became my local guardian. After 7 months, I left the Cruise Memorial Hospital.

“In March 1990, I returned to Gyumri, Armenia, using two crutches, but I returned to Syracuse for reconstructive surgery in the spring of 1992.”

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HOPE Lifters is our caring group of supporters who commit to giving each month. As a HOPE Lifter, your gift does 105 times more, because every $1 you give helps to send $105 worth of donated medical supplies into the world’s poverty zones. For example, if you pledge $15 a month, that gets multiplied 105 times, sending $1,575 worth of help each month. And over 12 months, that adds up to an amazing $18,900. Being a HOPE Lifter is easy and affordable, and the impact you make is huge.

To find out more, check the box on the reply form, call Donor Services toll-free at 844-349-0188, or visit: projecthope.org/hopelifters.
How His Work Is Progressing

Dr. Laxmikant Palo

UPDATE: WILLIAM B. WALSH FELLOW, DR. LAXMIKANT PALO

Dr. Laxmikant Palo, an esteemed Walsh fellow, serves as Regional Director-South East Asia with Project HOPE.

Since becoming Project HOPE’s SE Asia Regional Director in April 2015, Dr. Laxmikant Palo initiated country operations in Nepal after the earthquake. He worked to streamline medical and volunteer supplies to the earthquake-affected population, and develop medical and volunteer supplies to the earthquake-affected population.

Dr. Palo has created and developed several high-quality proposals on non-communicable diseases, maternal newborn child health and nutrition — with many breakthrough ideas for unique proposals. He has initiated a process for multi-country programs and multi-donor partnerships, serving a range of public health programs while maintaining their quality.

The Project HOPE Alumni Association Group is up and running, and we are eager to have you join. To access the site, please go to the HOPE web page at projecthope.org, click on “Get Involved” and then “Connect with Alumni.” Use the Facebook group to reconnect with old friends, share photos and communicate about upcoming alumni events and happenings.

In October, I was invited to return to Armenia and visit the project. I was able to share my experience for HOPE and the Alumni Association, and to support this wonderful group.

Dr. Laura Movsesyan (physiatrist), Hripsime Hovhanissyan (orthopedic nurse), Dr. Koloyan and Dr. George Kevorkian, October 2015.

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Project HOPE in Armenia: Local Capacity, in His Own Words

Dr. George Kevorkian

Project HOPE Volunteer

255 Campus Hill Lane
PO Box 231
Millwood, VA 22646-0250

Name: 
Address: 
City: State: ZIP: 
My email address is: 

By providing your email address you will receive updates and information on your Alumni Association.

ENSURE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS CORRECT TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM PROJECT HOPE!

I am delighted to be part of the Alumni Association, and to support this wonderful group.

Here’s my gift of $________ for:

☐ The Alumni Fund, supporting alumni activities.
☐ The William B. Walsh, M.D. Endowment, supporting the William B. Walsh fellow.
☐ The Lee Olive Harrison Fund, supporting basic nursing skills education.
☐ The Bill Kooiman Fund, supporting volunteer travel.

Please note your tax-deductible gift is payable to Project HOPE, and net it, along with this form, in the envelope provided.

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Facebook Group

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